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tions, which are always too small, and if this sometimes involves discrimination between different titles, we intend to make it on the basis of economical administration rather than of purely literary selection.

Librarians have learned more than one lesson in the past five years. They know now, as they never knew before, that economical book-purchase is a more complex matter than the mere dispatch of a list to a jobber. The selection of the best editions, the decision regarding the best time to wait, the culling of needed titles from the dealer's or the auctioneer's catalog, the careful discrimination between truth and fake in book circulars, the knowledge of when it is best to import and when not—these and a score of other things involve knowledge and judgment. If the knowledge and judgment are those of the purchasing librarian, he or she need not pay for their exercise by someone else. This is the path of practical economy in book-purchase, and no librarian, be he great or small, can afford to stray from it.

The PRESIDENT: We will now pass to the first subject of this morning's program, a consideration and review of the Southern library movement, and the chair has great pleasure in introducing Miss Anne Wallace, of the Carnegie library of Atlanta, who will give a general paper.

Miss WALLACE: Before reading this paper, I would simply say in apology that it was written six weeks ago without the aid of any tools. I was on the beautiful Bay of Naples, three thousand miles away from a Carnegie library, and it was all done from memory and sent home to be corrected. I was in the hotel in which Wagner composed many of his operas, and Ibsen wrote *Peer Gynt* in the next room, and if I found it difficult to confine myself to technical matters instead of to music and poetry, you will understand the difficulty.

THE SOUTHERN LIBRARY MOVEMENT

Title. The history of the library movement in the South, or more precisely, the

history of the free public library in the Southeastern states since the American Library Association meeting in Atlanta in 1899 conveys to you the scope and the limitations of this record. To write a comprehensive history of the public library movement in the United States the logical procedure would be to compile the history of the movement in each section. Up to this period the history of the libraries of the New England and Middle states, which for many years past and years to come, have been and will continue to be the centre of library activity, would be the history of the movement in the United States. But for the last five years the percent of increase of new libraries has been greatest in the middle West and in the South. Both of these sections have equal problems and many similar ones. Vastness of territory, absence of many large cities, together with a large rural population are facts common to both. I shall watch eagerly for the history of the West. It is of the work in the South that this paper deals.

Area and population. The section of the United States here covered extends from Virginia to Texas, and from Kentucky to Florida, a territory larger in area than that of the New England and Middle Atlantic states put together, and no one state that is not an empire in extent. In proportion to area the population is smaller and more widely distributed. The absence of large cities which act as centers of culture and means of expediting transportation makes all work of propaganda slower and more expensive.

Retarding influences. In addition to the large class of illiterate whites that every section has to carry, the South is burdened with the extra tax of the heaviest negro population of the United States. Climatic conditions that make life out of doors comfortable for nine months of the year, do not tend to develop indoor recreations which are so necessary in the frozen North. It is well also to remember that a generation is hardly a long enough period for a people to recover that material prosperity

which creates the leisure which fosters culture, after having been the battle-field for two encamping armies in civil revolution.

In addition to these retarding influences the South has always preserved an English conservatism in politics, in business, in religion, and in social customs, and an aversion to paternalism in state and Federal control which does, we must admit, in its centralizing of power advance the educational, as well as the material advantages, of a state or a corporation. A thorough study of these historical and sociological conditions reveals a deeper insight than the superficial observer gathers from what he regards as an alarming apathy in the development of libraries in the South. On the contrary this conservatism has resulted in a homogeneity of race and interests that makes for a public sentiment that supports liberally any institutions for culture and learning when once established. This is best evidenced in the history of the first free public library supported by the people of a Southern city in the fact that the ten per cent. basis is ignored, and the city appropriation has been more than trebled in five years.

Conditions. Prior to the period we are considering there were in existence in the larger cities of the South, state and institutional subscription and memorial libraries with and without endowment. Such collections were to be found in Richmond, Va., Louisville, Ky., Charleston, S. C., Savannah, and Atlanta, Ga., Montgomery, Ala., New Orleans, La., Nashville, Tenn., Chapel Hill, N. C., and at Austin, Houston and Galveston, Texas.

In antebellum times many private libraries were to be found on plantations. These consisted chiefly of more or less valuable editions of the classics, imported from England, and some rare local histories and biographies, accounts of the Indians, and political pamphlets, but for authentic records of local happenings such as can be found in almost every New England township there were none, partly because the Southern people are given to oral and tra-

ditional legend rather than to note taking and record making. What there was of records has fared badly in the fires of revolutionary and civil wars, and to-day the volumes on Southern Americana are scarce. Of what books remained in the South, the enterprising second-hand book man has bought up the greater portions and sold them to Northern libraries, whose librarian has seen them cataloged and knew them to be valuable at any price. The best collection of Southern Americana is to be found in the British Museum and in English state papers.

Pioneer work. The pioneer work then was in creating a public sentiment that would demand and support a free public library. The amount of missionary work that had to be done before one library could be established seems incredible now that the movement is well started. Unfortunately the public library in the South was not coincident with the public schools, which antedated the library movement some 25 years. The same kind of advance work in preparing the public mind for the new system had to be done. The press, the women's clubs, and individual effort were employed to this purpose.

To the trustees of the Young Men's Library Association of Atlanta too much credit cannot be given for their policy of preparing the way for the free public library to take the place of the old subscription or club library, and to their prompt and unselfish efforts to promote and consolidate library interests in Atlanta.

In connection with this effort must be mentioned the "congress of women librarians" held at the woman's building of the Cotton States and International Exposition in 1895, which was one of the various congresses employed to advance educational ideas, and which resulted in the organization of the women's club movement in the South, a factor which has always been useful in the development of library work.

The program and arrangements for the Library congress were placed in the hands of the librarian of the Young Men's Library Association. The success of that

program was and is still one of the mysteries. A glance at the program shows subjects that are to-day being used on programs of state meetings in new fields. These subjects were presented by such well known library workers as the late Hannah P. James, Alice B. Kroeger, Nina E. Browne and Mary E. Sargent. R. R. Bowker, and Mr and Mrs Henry J. Carr attended the meeting as a kind of honorary escort. The audience was not such a credit as the program. It consisted of myself and the librarian of the Young Men's library association of Mobile, who was unfortunately deaf, and who had brought her fourteen year old nephew to report the meeting to her, and that ever-shifting crowd of sight-seers who attend exposition conferences, and who promptly leave the room when the program begins.

Nevertheless the printed report of the Congress was the initial step in pioneer library work in Atlanta. It brought the needs of the section to the American Library Association and it brought the American Library Association to Atlanta in 1899. This in itself acting as a great stimulus to the pioneer workers.

The free public library as a municipal property in the South dates from the acceptance of Mr Carnegie's first gift to the South in 1899. At this time the ten per cent. basis of support had not been formulated. Pittsburgh, Allegheny and Washington, D. C., had already received Carnegie buildings, but each was on a separate condition. His gift to Atlanta of \$100,000 was subsequently raised to \$145,000 and only \$5000 per annum was required of the city. As up to this time no state library law was in existence, the city charter had to be amended, the only other case on the statute books being the act to incorporate the Savannah library society November 20, 1801. (This act has never been repealed, but the Society was incorporated with the Georgia historical society in 1847, and assumed the latter title)

It was not until other cities were ready to establish libraries that the Georgia library law was enacted (1901) In this

State it was impossible to secure a direct tax for library support without calling a convention to amend the constitution. The code of Georgia to-day states, in concise English, that taxation shall be permitted for the "rudiments of an English education only." This is the reason the present Georgia law was based on the direct grant of the Massachusetts law rather than on the more satisfactory direct tax in use in many of the Western states.

It has been the history of the movement in the South that after it was demonstrated that Atlanta was operating a free public library other cities followed her example and established libraries with and without city charter amendments. None waited for the passage of a state law. The Alabama and North Carolina laws are now under consideration, and both states are, and have been for some years, enjoying free public libraries.

The force of example was never more keenly employed. While the Atlanta library was in process of erection, the building committee of the Nashville (Tenn.) library trustees visited Atlanta and were so much pleased that they chose the same architect. The Montgomery, Alabama, library came next, and Charlotte, N. C., and Chattanooga, Tennessee followed in quick succession, and now the number of free libraries is increasing while you wait. The progress in Texas was at its height about this period, but as that state is too distant to cooperate with the Southeastern Atlantic states we will have to depend entirely upon the report of the state representative. In this connection it might be stated that Texas might be grouped with the Southwestern states, which have already shown a rapid development and should receive the attention of the A. L. A., as even this Asheville meeting is still very distant from Texas.

Agencies. In library progress in the South as elsewhere the same agencies for advancement have been employed. In addition to the individual enthusiast, and the well organized city library, which always lends aid to its less prosperous neighbors,

the work is being advanced by the state library associations, library commissions and lastly, a well equipped technical library school. In this connection might also be mentioned the newly created library department of the Southern educational association.

State associations. With the establishment of a free public library on a modern basis in our midst, with the interest of neighboring cities, not all in one state, it was the natural result that cooperation should be desired. The Georgia library association had been organized at the old Young Men's library association building in Atlanta in May 1897. Other state associations were organized in quick succession. Texas organized in 1901, Florida in 1901, Tennessee in 1902, Alabama in 1904, North Carolina in 1904, Virginia in 1905, Kentucky 1907. In each of these states the same difficulties presented themselves, and so small was the strictly library following that it was deemed best to call in all allied interests, the most natural allies being the club women and the educational institutions. Trustees of city libraries have proved good friends, often giving the time of the local librarian and personally contributing to the social expenses of the gatherings.

In each Southern state endeavoring to marshall its library interests into cooperation were met the same difficulties. The same conditions prevailed, great area, small cities, poorly paid librarians, lack of assistants to substitute during absence of librarians, the same agencies were employed, the press, and the efforts of the individual worker trying to spread himself over too much space.

Inter-state meeting. Having to watch these struggles and having noticed an apathy at the second and third meeting of the various state associations, due to the work falling on the same few each year, it was decided to hold an inter-state meeting of Southern librarians in Atlanta in December, 1905, just ten years after the first "congress of women librarians" held in connection with the Cotton States and International

Exposition of 1895. The result was gratifying in the extreme, twelve states being represented by active library workers, in fact every Southern state, with the exception of Texas.

This meeting did much to unify Southern library interests, and for the first time brought together representatives of all the state associations (except Texas). Although it was deemed best not to organize a Southern association it was the opinion of each present that inter-state meetings at intervals would be beneficial, in the South as in other sections, the state and national associations being the only organizations necessary.

Library commissions. So far the work of library development in the South has been confined to the cities and towns. This growth with the town as the unit of expansion was rather from the nature of the Carnegie gift than from purpose. It would be preferable to have the county the territory instead of the corporate limits of the town. The annual appropriation for support should come from both the town and the county treasury. This would enable the citizen of the county who comes to the town for supplies to draw library books as well. It would also entitle the man who lives in the country, but whose work is in the town, to the free use of the library. I understand that Mr Carnegie has no objection to this plan and would as soon give to the county as to the town. Whether this change is made or not, the future of library development in the South lies in the establishment of the state commission to dispense state aid.

A central distributing point would tend to cheapen administrative expenses and concentrate the work. As it is now in many states, individual librarians are doing good work and altruistic work in helping the weaker libraries. This gratuitous labor is an additional tax and could be avoided if the state commissions were active. The force of the concentration of power has been felt in our state as the work of the association, the commission, the technical school are all focused in the

largest public library of the state, and all act together. The expense of this work has fallen upon a city institution, whereas it should be a work of the state. If the twelve Southern states had each an active state commission, with even a small appropriation from the state, the progress in the section would equal, in one year, the results now obtained in ten by the present system.

Technical training. The building of new libraries, and the organization of the free public library as a department of the city government created a demand for trained librarians and technical experts. As early as 1882 the Directors of the Young Men's library of Atlanta engaged the services of Miss Mary A. Bean, at that time an assistant in the Boston public library, to reorganize that library. In defense of the fixed location and printed catalog which Miss Bean employed it must be stated that technical library methods were still unformulated at that early period, and Miss Bean took as her model the Boston public library, which is still, I understand, laboring under the disadvantage of an outgrown classification. This system was still in vogue in Atlanta until the consolidation and organization of the Carnegie library of Atlanta in 1899, which consummation was effected in the presence of the American Library Association. In reorganizing, a graduate of a technical school was put in charge of the catalog department, but still untrained labor had to be employed as assistants. It was then an apprentice class was established, after the plan then being used at the Public library of Dayton, Ohio, which called for an entrance examination, and offered certain hours of instruction for required hours of service. The details of this plan had been worked out by Miss Doren, who in turn stated her indebtedness to the Los Angeles system which Miss Kelso had established.

By the time the Carnegie library was finished a competent staff was trained. But here our troubles began. No sooner had we a model workshop, than our neighboring cities began to call on us for trained

assistants. Other Carnegie libraries were in process of erection, institutional and private libraries were being reorganized and a steady demand for better library service was created. Early in this demand were the libraries of Montgomery, Charlotte and Chattanooga. Their librarians came to study methods and each returned with one of our assistants tucked under her arm. Assistants were lent to the libraries of the Georgia school of technology, Agnes Scott college, and to the University of Georgia; to the public libraries of Dublin, Newnan, and Albany, Georgia; to Ensley, Selma, and Gadsden, Alabama. Assistance was claimed by the State libraries of Mississippi and Georgia, and by the projectors of newly planned buildings not yet erected. It is impossible to see now how we did it so as not to cripple our own library, but finally the demand reached even the limit of inter-municipal courtesy, and Mr Carnegie was appealed to. Again he came to the aid of the work in the South and established a technical library school, as a part of the work of the Carnegie library of Atlanta, in May 1905. At this school the course of study is similar to that offered by the older library schools, with the addition of a special course on library administration, necessitated by the demand for librarians of small libraries in the South rather than for assistants for large libraries. The course of study, hours, instructors, length of term, and other details are now in accordance with the rules prescribed by the special committee of the A. L. A., on library training. Results are already perceptible from the work being done by the ten graduates of the class of 1906. The demand for the members of the class, which will graduate in June 1907, shows the supply of trained assistants in the South is far short. The good being done by these enthusiastic young women, who have received technical instruction and practical work in a well organized library as work shop will show in the improved quality of library service in this whole section.

Publications. While the bibliographical

output of the Southern library is still inconsiderable quite an impetus has been given in the last few years. The publications of the Virginia, and North Carolina state libraries are valuable contributions. The Department of history and archives of Alabama has made a fine record and even Georgia is awakening to the need of printing its records. Public libraries are beginning to see the necessity of collecting local material, and from time to time good working lists are being printed. State associations and commissions are issuing creditable handbooks, and general activity is manifested in the matter of cooperative work.

This report, incomplete though it is, will open the eyes of some as to what is being done, and will serve to encourage isolated workers by this showing of cumulative effort. It is impossible in this paper to speak of the indefatigable work of these isolated men and women who have given, and still are giving, the very best of their lives to the work we have under consideration. With no chance of promotion, with little cooperation, and with unselfish zeal they are making records which will become a part of the history of the section.

In conclusion it will not be out of place to acknowledge to the libraries North, East and West, our indebtedness to them for suggestion, information and inspiration. No one appeal to another librarian for help has ever been denied, and it is this beautiful evidence of the library spirit that has enabled us to help and serve the new libraries in our section to the best of our ability. The compiling of this record has served to recall my own service to the cause, and whatever there is of thoroughness and technical integrity in the record I beg to dedicate it to the memory of Hannah P. James, who was the first of the many who came to my aid, and whose life and work has always been to me the source of my best inspiration and initiative in the development of library work in the South.

The PRESIDENT: We have listened to a story of remarkable progress told in Miss

Wallace's inimitable way. We certainly can congratulate the Southern libraries on the work accomplished, but we must not fail—and I am sure that no member of the Association who knows the history of the movement, will fail to give Miss Wallace credit for a very large share in the progress of the South.

Mr R. R. BOWKER: Mr President, Miss Wallace and fellow members of the A. L. A. I am privileged to offer an interpolation in the morning's program. It is only those who knew the library South, or rather, the non-library South, twelve or fifteen years ago, to whom the full significance of this great gathering can be evident. Those of us who hark back to the early and formative days of the American Library Association, can never under any circumstances forget the kindling enthusiasm embodied in the inspiring and guiding work of the man who was the prophet of the golden age of the library dispensation. But that kindling enthusiasm for years found no response in the South, which was almost a blank on the library map. The personal culture of the old South was only beginning to be replaced by the new education of the new South, which, as you have heard, had not then taken library shape. It was my good fortune in a hap-hazard journey in the South to be in Atlanta, and to venture a library reconnoissance in that city, where I found at the desk of the Young Men's library association, then housed, I think, in a private dwelling turned to this purpose, a young woman, radiating sunshine, and having somehow an inborn library enthusiasm. I think that no other person in touch with the library world had then happened to visit that library. The Young Men's library proved, indeed, to be a young woman, and I suspect that it is not by every mail but through every female that library progress in the South is more and more heard from. A few years later—twelve years ago—came the Atlanta exposition, and the great Library congress. You must not suppose that all those who were represented on the program as reading papers were in attendance

as members of this congress. It consisted, aside from Mr Carr and myself as escorts, of five ladies, and the participants still hope that as members of the Congress their superior aristocracy is recognized by all members of the A. L. A. If ever you see a badge of a happy little darkey on a cotton bale eating a slice of watermelon, you will recognize a member of that great Library congress, for this was the symbol of the Atlanta cotton states exposition. We met Miss Wallace—a host in herself—and the seven other members of the Congress, in the presence of that deaf lady librarian and her small-boy assistant and of the tramps of the Exposition, who found the empty benches a comfortable home until somebody began to read a paper, and that was the Library congress from which so much good work proceeded. Then came the Atlanta conference—the American Library Association has held many conferences but only one Congress—with a good attendance, but with sparse representation from the South. I think perhaps within a score—whereas in this great gathering in Asheville, on which all the library forces have converged, there are, I suppose, something like a hundred members from the South, representing the new library spirit, and among them under the leadership of this apostle of library progress, half a dozen from the Carnegie library of Atlanta, and the graduating class of the Southern library school who are to go forth as library missionaries in the spirit of their leader. What has been accomplished by the lady whose name is in the thoughts of you all, some of you know, but truly the paper which you have just heard is in a real way an autobiography. Indeed, since the early days of the Young Men's library, this one young woman of the South has been compelling all men to do her bidding, and having conquered even the iron rules of the iron master, who has indeed given over his tithes, is in such repute that in the hierarchy of library saints even St Andrew doffs his halo and surrenders to St Anne. (Laughter and applause). I have the honor to announce that the Library congress has

held a session at Asheville, though we miss that first of gentlewomen, to whom allusion has been made so touchingly, for Miss James is no longer with us. But a majority of the Congress has met and has voted that in recognition of the work of this pioneer in the new South, a loving cup be presented, and any of you who desire to join in that may do so by grace of the resolution of the Congress, if you will give your name either to Mrs Carr or to Miss Nina Browne. I am sure that all of you will join in spirit in that presentation when it comes. I am able only to make the announcement now. But I know that now is the time to do one thing that ought to be done, for the whole body of the American Library Association to recognize the debt it owes to the apostle, the missionary of library progress in the South, and I suggest therefore that those of us who believe in fairies, and know a real fairy when they see one, should rise and give the Peter Pan salute to Anne Wallace. (The entire audience arose)

The PRESIDENT: Miss Wallace's very interesting and complete description of the movement in the South is a general paper. It still leaves the details of the work in the individual States to be described, and we have asked representatives of each State to complete her story and to give us the full account of the work. It is interesting to note that Miss Wallace has followed the Dewey decimal classification in determining the order in which the States shall be called. Under that arrangement, therefore, I call first upon Mr JOHN P. KENNEDY to present the details in regard to Virginia.

VIRGINIA LIBRARIES

There are 125 libraries in Virginia which contain in the neighborhood of 600,000 volumes. Only 85 of these have reported to the Commissioner of education who classifies them in the following order: 2 school, 2 colleges, 8 general, 5 law, 4 Y. M. C. A., 3 historical, 2 theological, 1 college society, 1 government, 1 state, 1 asy-

lum, 1 masonic, 1 scientific, 1 garrison and 1 society. The forty libraries not reporting in response to the circular issued by the Commissioner of education, are chiefly in schools and render little, if any, service to the general public.

The great majority of Virginia libraries are located in the schools and colleges of the state, therefore cannot be reckoned as a factor in our public library movement. From this it will be seen that the building of public libraries in Virginia is in its infancy, as we have but six institutions of this kind in our state. Lynchburg and Winchester, however, will add two to this list within a short time, and it is to be hoped that the city of Richmond will also be represented.

Where our public libraries do exist they are the equal of libraries of similar size and opportunities located elsewhere. The public library in Norfolk has greatly increased the prestige of that city during the past five years. Winchester and Lynchburg will, no doubt, be equally as successful when their libraries are finally opened to the public. Unfortunately, however, circumstances have prevented the opening of the Jones memorial library in the latter city. This library was given to the city a number of years ago by George M. Jones, one of its progressive citizens, though his widow in contesting the will has greatly delayed the wishes of the benefactor being carried into effect. Some three years ago she proposed a compromise which the city accepted with the understanding that when the library was completed she would turn it over to the public. This she has not done, though the building is finished and several thousand books have been purchased and placed upon the shelves. That the library has not been opened is due entirely to a decree issued by Mrs Jones to the effect that unless her ideas of the arrangement of the books are carried out, the institution will not be thrown open for public purposes. It is simply another case where the people are made to suffer as the result of the stubbornness of an individual who may mean well but lacks judgment in

such matters. The library situation in that city is, therefore, to be deplored and every possible encouragement and sympathy of all library-loving people should be extended to that community.

In Richmond where no free circulating library exists the people naturally depend upon the State library. This is an unfortunate condition of affairs, which the advocates of public libraries are now attempting to overcome. Mr Carnegie has offered a \$200,000 library building to the city under practically the same conditions that have characterized his gifts in other sections. The offer, however, has not been accepted and probably will not be for some time to come. The fear of promoters of the project, at present, is that Richmond will defer action until it is too late to reap the benefits now held out to that city by the greatest promoter of library advancement the world has ever seen.

Aside from the unfortunate conditions which exist in Richmond and Lynchburg, there is a very determined feeling on the part of the promoters for the advancement of public libraries throughout the commonwealth. This is due in no uncertain degree to the ambition of the student-body which has made demands for library facilities that must be met if the state is to prosper. We have a very liberal library law which permits any town or county to tax itself to maintain libraries, and it is confidently expected that at least three communities will avail themselves of such an opportunity at an early date. Library conditions in Virginia are, therefore, worthy of being judged in a favorable light and it is confidently believed that a permanent and healthy growth will result.

As already stated the great majority of the libraries of Virginia are in schools and this makes the State library the most prominent institution of its kind in the commonwealth, and it is to this library that I wish to more particularly call your attention to-day. Prior to 1903 the state owned 43,500 books; employed a librarian and a janitor; kept the library open from nine until three o'clock and served, according to

such records as can be found, about 900 books a year to readers in general. This was for the years 1902-3, while in 1905-6 the attendance had increased from 1,000 in 1902-3 to 41,000 and the number of books served amounted to 67,146. This is due entirely to the liberality of the present library board, who have shown marked capacity and judgment in library administration. The growth herein recorded has made the State library the most important library factor in the state and the demands that have been made upon this institution for aid have been very great. As an illustration it is interesting to note that at least 6,000 letters were received annually and the services of four stenographers are needed to look after this feature of the work. There has been created during the past three years nine separate and distinct departments; namely, archives and history, serials, reference, cataloging and classifying, notes and queries, bibliography, traveling libraries, comparative legislation, and stenography and typewriting, whose facilities are exercised to the utmost to meet the demands made upon them by the people not only of Virginia but of other states. We likewise have all modern facilities of intercourse, such as inter-library loans, special collection of study clubs, etc., and it is estimated we will serve in the neighborhood of 75,000 books to readers during the present year. The force at present consists of twelve persons and the appropriations for the maintenance of the library, made by the last Assembly, aggregates over \$30,000 which is exclusive of the \$4,000 the library spends annually in publishing the miscellaneous records of the state.

In addition to what has been done it is a matter of pride with us to note that in spite of the duties we have to perform we are enabled to publish the Journals of the House of Burgesses at the rate of three volumes a year, and have also gotten out the Calendar of manuscripts and transcripts of the library, which contains about 700 pages. We are also publishing statements of comparative legislation on indi-

vidual subjects, and the heads of the various departments of the library will hereafter produce a monograph annually which will constitute a series of important publications on important Virginia subjects. We have also well under way the first calendar of a newspaper that has ever been undertaken. The paper in question is the "Richmond Enquirer," the most noted of all Southern papers. These papers are being digested and all important information contained therein arranged in the form of calendar entries and will be published on the general dictionary catalog plan. It will require at least two years more to finish this undertaking.

In the department of archives and history is being prepared a calendar of petitions which have been presented to the Assembly of Virginia since its formation. This undertaking will require at least two years to complete. In the meantime a calendar of colonial Virginia will be published. This work is but a section of the bibliography of Virginia, which is also in the course of preparation by the library. In rendering such service to the people of our state we have received the greatest possible encouragement, which we calculate will result in reviving library interest in general throughout the commonwealth. Libraries have learned to use our books and we are using theirs, in fact we are creating a feeling that a pooling of our interest is the best possible assurance of a permanent success.

That we have trained librarians to carry on our work is apparent. We are, therefore, conducting a library school which turned out five graduates in 1905; ten in 1906 and fifteen in 1907. In this particular work we have been very fortunate in securing students who were ambitious and earnest, and we have reason to believe that many of them will be a credit to the profession.

The traveling libraries of the state are also operated by the Virginia state library. This system was inaugurated in 1903, and within six months 21 libraries were placed in the field. These books were donated by

friends of education and it was not until the Assembly of 1906 that an appropriation was secured for this purpose. Since that time the number of libraries in the field has been increased to 150, being equally divided between the public and schools. It is hoped that an additional appropriation will be secured during the coming winter which will enable 500 libraries to be in circulation within the next two years. With these libraries in operation the absence of public libraries will not be so badly felt as at present, and it is believed that the placing of these temporary libraries at different points throughout the state will result in public libraries being established. It will be seen, therefore, from the foregoing statements, that while the Virginia library movement is not what we would like to see it, it is, nevertheless, promising and bids fair to result in permanent good. Our various libraries are banded together for the promotion of library interests in general and particular for such development as we are capable of effecting in our own state. We look upon the individual library as a mere unit, and our belief is that concerted action is the best possible course for us to pursue to advance library interest throughout our commonwealth. This is shown by the fact that the aim of the Virginia library association is to assist communities that have library ambitions, by giving them such funds as are received in the form of annual dues. So it is we are striving among ourselves to better our conditions, and such of us as are fortunate enough to attend this meeting are here to be instructed as well as to attempt to merit your friendship and encouragement. We are beginners in the unworked field, and we are ambitious to create such results as will reflect credit upon our profession. In order to do this we seek to enlist aid and will strive to show by our actions in the future that we are grateful for such assistance as may be rendered us in our campaign for the betterment of libraries in Virginia.

President ANDREWS: The next in order is the State which is our host, and its

representative is in a special way our hostess. Mrs ANNIE SMITH ROSS, of the Carnegie library of Charlotte, will describe the condition of library work in North Carolina.

LIBRARY PROGRESS IN NORTH CAROLINA SINCE 1899

North Carolina was one of the first states to make constitutional provision for both the common and the higher education of her citizens. The heroes of 1776 recognized that liberty and enlightenment were complements of each other, and that the surest safeguard to democratic government is education.

Except the State library and libraries of schools and colleges, but few public libraries were established before 1899. A number of subscription libraries were in a few of the largest cities. The Asheville library association, founded in 1879, occupies a handsome building given by Mr George Pack and valued at \$40,000; it has an annual income of \$3000, contains 8000 volumes, and last year had a circulation of 16,249 volumes and 993 readers.

In 1901, 1903 and 1905, the legislature made possible the rural libraries, the most important step yet taken in public education. To-day there are more than 1400 of these libraries, containing 137,536 volumes, accessible to about 120,000 people. North Carolina goes on record as furnishing 25 books to every 100 of her population, a number which, while very much less than that of some other states of the Union, has the distinction of being twice as large as it was in 1900. For the last two years, two public school houses have gone up every day.

One of the mightiest forces in our library extension work is the Federation of women's clubs. There is hardly a club in the state which is not in some way connected with some form of library work. At their recent annual meeting, they pledged their support to secure such legislation as will make possible a library commission. Last year from Goldsboro 38 collections of

traveling libraries were sent out by the Woman's club.

The development of the college library, so far as the public is interested, has been in well equipped buildings. Trinity college, at Durham, has a \$60,000 building. The University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill, has a \$55,000 library with \$55,000 endowment. The State normal at Greensboro, a \$20,000 building, and Davidson college the promise of a similar one.

At Durham, in 1897, was established the first public library, followed in 1900 by the Olivia Raney memorial library at Raleigh, the Greensboro public library in 1902, Carnegie library of Charlotte in 1903, Winston-Salem, Gastonia, Wilmington, Goldsboro, Hickory, Wadesboro, in 1906, and the Page memorial library at Aberdeen in 1907.

Charlotte has the only public library for negroes, supported by the city. The building cost \$2300, and receives an annual appropriation of \$400. It was opened in July, 1906, has 600 volumes, and 300 regular readers. The negro citizens have raised money for books.

At their recent session, the legislature granted charters to High Point and Statesville for Carnegie gifts, authorized a vote in Charlotte for a tax of three cents for support of the Carnegie library, and the Board of education of Mecklenburg county to appropriate \$750 to the Carnegie library of Charlotte annually.

The North Carolina library association was organized in 1904, and has held three annual meetings, and has a membership of 76.

Miss MARY MARTIN, assistant librarian of Winthrop college library of Rock Hill, presented the statement for

SOUTH CAROLINA

Library legislation. The library law of 1903 provides for the maintenance of public libraries by towns of over 5000 inhabitants. (Acts 1903. No. 45.)

Under the school library law of 1904 about 800 libraries have been established. The

senior class of 60 at the State normal and industrial college was this year given a course of lectures on the selection and care of these libraries, by the college librarian, a graduate of Drexel.

The town of Union has a special law incorporating the board of trustees. (Acts of 1906. No. 168.)

College libraries. In an interesting hand-book issued last fall, the University of South Carolina claims that it was the first college in the United States to have a separate library building. It has taken 75 years for the other colleges to follow suit. Within the last year, three Carnegie buildings have been put into use. A fourth college has funds on hand for one.

Two college libraries have been lately cataloged and classified by expert librarians.

Public libraries. When we consider that five years ago there was no public library building in the state, the present outlook is very encouraging. Three towns have Carnegie buildings, two are now building. There are about a dozen small libraries in the state partly supported by public funds.

Special libraries. Charleston and Columbia, the largest cities of the state, have only subscription libraries as yet. One of these, the Charleston library society, founded in 1748, is in a very flourishing condition. 35,000 volumes have been added since 1899.

The South Carolina historical society and the Charleston museum have valuable reference libraries.

Library association and Library commission. We have neither of these aids to library organization. That the need is felt the following incident will show.

A certain little town in our state wanted a public library. A Carnegie building was asked for and granted under the usual conditions. All at once the good people who were to give the only desirable lot, threatened to withdraw their offer unless assurance was given them in regard to the book selection. They wanted particularly to know whether Mr Carnegie had

reserved the right to select the books. The people in authority knew that Mr Carnegie had made no such reservation. But they were decidedly of the opinion that, should he intimate a desire to select their books, courtesy would demand that he be allowed to do so.

I was not told just why these people objected to Mr Carnegie's selection of their reading matter. Perhaps they thought his library gifts a canny scheme to increase the sale of his own books, or suspected him of deep laid designs to force reformed spelling or Scotch dialect upon an unwilling public. I only know that the library came to a stand-still for some time. Finally the matter was referred to a man who knew a man who lived in a town where there was a Carnegie library. In this roundabout way information was received from a librarian which effectually removed the difficulties.

Mr GEO. B. UTLEY, Librarian of the Free public library, Jacksonville, presented a paper on

LIBRARY CONDITIONS IN FLORIDA

This brief paper on library conditions in Florida deals for the most part with beginnings. When the A. L. A. last met in the south, in 1899, there was practically no library activity in Florida, but we are now able to report some awakening and progress since that time, and before another eight years have passed we believe a yet better statement can be made. At present Jacksonville has the only free and municipally supported library in the state, but we feel confident in predicting that within a few years Tampa, Pensacola, and a number of smaller towns will be maintaining free libraries. Efforts to establish libraries in these places are being made and we believe that the indifference of the citizens and the opposition of the authorities will, in a short time, be overcome.

The establishment of new libraries is handicapped by the lack of legislation on the subject, for at present there are no general library laws in Florida. Any town or

city wishing to organize a municipally supported library must obtain the consent of the state legislature in an act authorizing the levy of a tax for this purpose. Such an act was passed in 1901 for the benefit of the city of Jacksonville, and, adopting this as a pattern, we have recently framed a bill authorizing any city or town to levy a tax, or otherwise to provide by public money, for the support of a free library. This bill is before the legislature now in session at Tallahassee, and if it becomes a law, this will be the first step towards adequate library legislation.

During our two years' residence in Florida we have attempted in several directions to awaken interest in a library commission. At present there are but few librarians to be interested, and these, with certain teachers and public spirited citizens, are the only ones who care for such a measure. No attempt has yet been made to secure legislation on this point, for the friends of the movement who are best acquainted with the political situation, believe that the opportune time has not yet arrived. We very much need traveling libraries to bring library privileges to the large but scattered rural population, but an attempt to secure money for carrying on this good work would undoubtedly be unsuccessful at the present time.

A state library is much needed to agitate such a movement as this, but Florida has no state library, except theoretically. An act of the legislature of 1845 provided that the secretary of state should "collect all books and maps belonging to the state" and place one copy in what should be known as the "Legislative library," and a second copy in what should be known as the "State judicial library." The legislature in 1855 provided that the legislative library should be placed under the care of the secretary of state, who was thereby declared ex-officio librarian of the state of Florida, and who should have a yearly salary of \$200. A room in the state capitol was originally set apart for the purposes of the library, but it was soon needed for what the powers considered more important uses, and the

books, maps and documents of all kinds were relegated to the basement, closets, or any places not suitable for other uses. Here, entirely inaccessible to the public, eaten by cock-roaches and subjected to mould and mildew, lie the books of the so-called state library. It is hoped that this condition of affairs will not much longer exist to be a disgrace to the state. The "State judicial library," originally so-called, has had a somewhat more fortunate experience. It has developed into the Supreme court library, containing now about 12,000 volumes of law and reference books, well shelved in the capitol building, but not adequately cataloged. This collection is under the supervision of the clerk of the Supreme court, which official, very naturally, has had no special library training.

A state historical society has been recently organized, a room in the Jacksonville library has been loaned for its use, and a nucleus of about one hundred volumes of rare and desirable works relating to Florida has been gathered during the past eighteen months. The society is, as yet, entirely dependent upon donations and the annual membership fees, although efforts are now being made to secure an appropriation from the state legislature.

A state library association was organized in 1901, with but two or three librarians as members, the remainder being teachers anxious to stir up some library enthusiasm. For several years the association held merely business meetings at the time and place of the annual conference of the state teachers' association. The first meeting at which a pre-arranged program was presented was held at St Augustine, December 28th and 29th, 1906. The association it is not yet strong enough to stand alone, is still dependent for membership largely upon interested teachers, and consequently is obliged to hold its conferences in conjunction with those of the teachers of the state.

Nearly every town of 1000 or more inhabitants has a small subscription circulating library. In most instances the collection is principally strong in fiction and

government documents. The little library at Key West, containing about 1900 volumes, finds Mrs Holmes and Mrs Southworth the only authors whose popularity has warranted the securing of duplicate copies. A few of these subscription libraries are enterprising, for example, De Funiak Springs, Tallahassee and Coconut Grove. These have a fairly good book selection, and the two latter own their own building. That at Coconut Grove has the distinction of being the most southerly situated library building in the United States. This little library is the special protégé of Mr Kirk Munroe, the author, and it would not be in its present prosperous condition except for his personal interest and oversight. But a subscription library, by the very reason of its being a subscription library, is seriously and almost hopelessly handicapped in trying to do any aggressive work in a community, particularly in reaching the children and the laboring classes.

Jacksonville has a \$50,000 Carnegie building, well equipped, well supported, and excellently patronized, over 86,000 volumes having been circulated in 1906. We are trying to set an example to the other towns and encourage them to go and do likewise, for at present this is the only free public library in Florida. Mr Carnegie has offered libraries to Tampa (\$25,000), Pensacola (\$15,000), and Ocala (\$5,000). (Since this was written, the prime movers in Ocala have applied for \$10,000 from Mr Carnegie, and have circulated a paper which has been signed by a majority of the tax payers in the town, authorizing the levying of a tax for \$10,000 instead of \$5000. Those who have been in correspondence with me are sure the measure will go through,—not fall through.) In each town a few are working for the movement, the majority are indifferent, and the only authorities are opposed to a library.

John B. Stetson university, at De Land, and Rollins college, at Winter Park, each has a Carnegie building in course of construction, the cost being \$40,000 and \$20,000 respectively. The University of Florida, at Gainesville, is most inadequately equip-

ped, the library being limited, and the expenditure for books and periodicals combined not exceeding \$75 annually. The Florida female college, at Tallahassee, has a fair working library of 6000 volumes, and a librarian who devotes her entire time to its duties.

This is, in truth, a most unsatisfactory record for so large a state, but when the A. L. A. again accepts our Southern hospitality we trust Florida will have a better report, and perhaps the manifold charms of St Augustine will be potent enough to draw you to her "Ancient city by the sea."

Dr T. M. OWEN reported for

ALABAMA

I want to talk to you very briefly upon library progress in Alabama in the last ten years. The condition in which we find ourselves is not at all what it should be, and yet, it is gratifying. Library legislation in Alabama is not in altogether satisfactory condition. Briefly summarized, library associations can incorporate themselves in any community in the same way that any literary or learned society or body of individuals can become incorporated; we have a few specific charters for libraries, as in the case of the Carnegie library in Montgomery; we have as one institution the State and supreme court library; and cities are permitted to support libraries in accordance with the terms of their charters. In some cases the charters specifically prohibit the granting of support for other causes than those mentioned in the charter, while a greater degree of liberty exists in others. Now, it is one of our aims to secure a comprehensive library law. By that I mean a law that will bring together the entire matter of charter, the incorporation and the support, either by taxation or by specific appropriation, and I am satisfied that public opinion is in such condition that we will in a short time be able to compass that desire.

In Alabama we have a library associa-

tion which was organized in 1904, at which time it held its first meeting. It has held two meetings since then and the association is in healthy condition, with ninety-one members; and at our last meeting we had the rare pleasure of having with us a man who was present in the Centennial year at the organization of the American Library Association, and whose name appears on the first page of the first issue of the "Library Journal." I refer to Mr Thomas Vickers, formerly librarian of the Cincinnati public library. We have in Alabama over 100—we had 95 reporting in the spring of 1906—we have over 100 free public and institutional libraries; we have 11 Carnegie libraries—three being school libraries, and eight of them free public libraries, Montgomery being the first. We have two others that have been granted, but the conditions for which have not yet been met. Our State and supreme court library, so the librarian tells me, has about 30,000 books, about 5,000 of which are general literature, the rest being the reports of the courts, session laws, and the exchanges with state libraries and other exchanges. These books serve the supreme court and its bar, and at the same time are available to the people generally. The librarian has been in office some thirty years; he is a gentleman of the old school and an excellent man.

I come now to what appears to me to be the most gratifying condition in Alabama, and that is with reference to our state supported work. In Alabama we found that it would not be well for us to undertake to establish a Library commission. When our legislature, which met last winter, established four or five new offices, and raised the salaries of all the officers in the state, it was felt that it would not be possible, even with the spirit of enthusiasm and progress stirring that body, to attempt the establishment of a commission which involved a new office, trustees, etc. Now, what did we do? We called a conference of some of the leaders of the legislature, and it was decided that

instead of creating a new office, we should engraft the work of a library commission upon the Department of archives and history. That was an institution that had been established six years, it had the confidence of the people and the legislature, the director of that Department was President of the State library association, and otherwise in touch with the people, and it was thought that would probably be the best means of library promotion. So the legislature passed a short law of six or eight lines, which is found on page 203 of the May number of the "Library Journal," containing two provisions, one of which is as follows: "That in addition to the duties now required by law, the Department of archives and history shall do and perform the following:

"1 It shall encourage and assist in the establishing of public and school libraries, and in the improvement and strengthening of those already in existence; it shall give advice and provide assistance to librarians and library workers in library administration, methods and economy, and it shall conduct a system of traveling libraries."

We wanted in a comprehensive way to state every duty, not counting the State library which is a phase of specific activity, every duty which the state owes to library promotion as such. We have been at work organizing our division of library extension. The head of that division has been selected, and on the first day of July we will begin our work. It has been divided or grouped somewhat in this way: Public library promotion, school library promotion, instruction and supervision, traveling libraries, magazine clearing house and publication. In every way we are going to undertake to promote, we are going to create public opinion, we are going to do that through press and publicity, and through lecture and appeal to the teachers and the people, we will be in the commercial associations and their institutes and their conventions, we will be at the gatherings of men in benevolent work and in church work, and every agency

that will tend to develop a public opinion in a community that will result in crystallizing that opinion so that there will be started a public library there. Alabama is, I believe, the first State that has made an appropriation in support of such work in the South—that is, to support a commission.

I don't know that I could say more; but we have our work well in hand. We are healthy and strong. Our people are prosperous and ambitious, and with your help, with the inspiration that we will gain from you, and your matured thought and your matured work, and as it comes to us through the publications which you put forth, like the "Library Journal" and the "Public Libraries," and your "Bulletins," and other things which we get, we are going to do well.

Before I close I want to render a little service here which I had intended to do just at the beginning. The unanimous applause which greeted the appearance of Miss Wallace on the presentation of her paper, was most gratifying to the hundred or more delegates from the South. We have long looked to her as the leader in our work, and I cannot let the opportunity pass with a tribute alone from Mr Bowker. I wish to give this public expression to her great helpfulness, to her leadership, to that advanced position which she has held in the movement, and which we hope she will hold for many, many years to come. We are satisfied that without her inspiration and guidance that we should be far behind our present position. In an individual way—that is to say, in the helpful sense to the individual library, I do not know anywhere anyone to whom so much is due.

Mr WILLIAM BEER of the Howard memorial library, New Orleans, presented the statement for

LOUISIANA

It is unfortunately only too easy to chronicle the advancement of Louisiana

since the last meeting of the American Library Association in the South. At that time the only large free public library, that of the city of New Orleans, had been already started, and was rapidly wending its way to the unexpectedly large number of readers which make use of its resources at this time.

The proportion of fiction to the entire number of books read has, however, considerably changed owing to the addition of large numbers of the latest popular works on the arts and sciences. The position and prospects of the library to-day are, however, very different. In 1900 the total income from city appropriation and other sources was approximately \$13,000, and the building was, in its then state, utterly inadequate. To-day, thanks to the gift of Mr Carnegie, the building fund amounts to \$275,000, which is being spent on the handsome commodious library at the entrance of the best residence avenue of the city, and on three branches distributed to the best advantage of the outlying population.

In other respects the library position in the city, viewed generally and not from the point of view of support by taxation, has greatly improved.

The State library may look forward to ample accommodations in the new building of the lower courts, for which a whole square of ground has been cleared within a short distance of Canal street.

The Library of Tulane university is now placed in the well designed Tilton memorial building, which, with the annex recently opened, will accommodate 100,000 books. This collection is likely to become of exceptional value from the gifts of individuals interested in the chairs of literature and history.

The Library of Sophie Newcomb college, already large, will undoubtedly benefit from the \$2,000,000 legacy of its founder.

The Howard memorial library has largely increased its periodical and historical collections, so that in the city itself the provision may be said to be fairly good.

The contrary is unfortunately the case

with regard to the scattered communities in the state, in which, outside New Orleans, the best collection available for students is probably that at the University of Baton Rouge.

There are only three tax supported libraries in the parishes, namely, the Carnegie libraries at Lake Charles and Jennings, and a library in Alexandria, founded by one of its philanthropic citizens.

The Lake Charles library was opened on March 7th 1904, with 626 volumes. Its present condition is, total number of books 3,300, circulation in 1906 18,862, present income \$1,000 for expenses, provided by the city; the book fund is raised by public subscription.

While no steps have been taken to pass legislation favorable to the formation of a library commission and to affording state aid to public libraries, the State superintendent of schools secured the passage of an act, in 1906, through which not less than 257 school libraries have been created.

I trust that the condition and prospects of libraries in Louisiana will have improved greatly before the next meeting of the Association in the South.

Mr PHINEAS L. WINDSOR, Librarian of the University of Texas, read the following paper on

THE LIBRARY SITUATION IN TEXAS

The modern library movement began in Texas in 1899-1900, the years of the largest four gifts to Texas cities by Mr Carnegie, and by the end of 1905 most of our present 19 Carnegie library buildings were completed and in use. Our successes are chiefly due to the persistent work of the women's clubs, and to the gifts of nearly half a million dollars from Mr Carnegie. We have not been aided by a library law, for Texas not only is without a general library law, but its state constitution is a hindrance rather than a help, being so worded as to require each city of less than 10,000 population to secure from the legislature a special charter amendment authorizing it to support a public library.

The Texas library association last month held its fifth annual meeting. Besides the esprit de corps arising as one result of these five meetings, the Association has, in conjunction with the Texas federation of women's clubs, drafted and had introduced into each of the last three legislatures bills creating a library commission, together with all the work incidental to such efforts; it issued, in 1904, with the financial help of the club women, a "Handbook of Texas libraries" of 86 pages of text and 16 pages of illustrations; it has conducted one library institute. For the future it is planning to issue this year a supplement to the "Handbook of Texas libraries"; with the aid of A. L. A. it hopes to bring about a meeting of the library workers of the Southwest; it will continue its legislative efforts, and it will hold occasional library institutes.

There are Carnegie library buildings in 19 cities, each of the four most expensive ones costing \$50,000, and one of these, San Antonio, has lately received an additional \$20,000 for additions to the building. Three cities have buildings erected from funds left by Texas citizens: in Lockhart is the Dr Eugene Clark library; in Waxahachie is the N. P. Sims library, and in Galveston is the Rosenberg library. The two latter are endowed, and the Rosenberg library endowment is so large as to warrant the confident expectation that it will become a leader among libraries of the Southwest. Besides these 22 public libraries there are, usually maintained by the club women, library beginnings in scores of the smaller towns, and some have reached a surprising stage of effectiveness. The half dozen large public libraries each containing 15,000 to 25,000 volumes have incomes of \$5,000 to over \$20,000, and circulate 45,000 to 80,000 volumes a year.

The principal college and university libraries are at the University of Texas, at Baylor university and at Southwestern university, which contain 55,000, 18,000 and 11,000 volumes respectively. Baylor university library occupies half of a \$75,000 building designed for a "library and

chapel;" and the library of the Huntsville state normal school occupies the Peabody memorial library building, costing \$12,500. Except these two, the libraries of Texas educational institutions are quartered but not housed.

The state maintains two good libraries in the Capitol, the Supreme court library of 14,000 volumes and the State library proper, which is under the jurisdiction of the Department of agriculture, insurance, statistics and history.

The State library was completely destroyed in the burning of the Capitol in 1881, and the collection now numbers 35,000 volumes and 16,000 manuscripts. Most of the volumes are state and federal documents; but the library has a notable collection of over 3,000 books and pamphlets relating to Texas and Southwestern history. These 3,000 Texas books include 750 bound volumes of newspapers, 150 being before 1880, and, with the more than 16,000 Spanish and other manuscripts, give a real distinction to the library. The library has not been able however to extend its usefulness so as to affect directly the libraries or the other educational institutions or the citizens of the state.

The library bill introduced into the Texas legislature last winter provided for a library commission which should take charge of the State library, develop a legislative reference section, maintain a system of traveling libraries and perform the other duties commonly devolving upon library commissions. While this bill failed of passage, it had promising legislative support, and with practically no changes, it will be introduced into the next legislature.

Miss EDITH A. PHELPS of the Carnegie library, Oklahoma City, has prepared the following statement for

OKLAHOMA

The library movement in Oklahoma is recent; only eighteen years since she was opened to settlement by the white people, then not for ten years did she receive within her borders the better class and

educated people from the older states. The Southern states are more largely represented, although every state in the Union has contributed to her population.

With the incoming of people, who are always in search of knowledge, soon developed the need of books, and then, with the representatives sent to the legislature, realizing this want there have been established a State library, a State university library, State historical association with a library, three State normal schools maintain libraries, and one in the Agricultural and mechanical college, all supported by the State.

Two denominational colleges have between them 3000 volumes and employ a librarian, one is planning to have its librarian attend one of the summer library schools during 1907.

Five towns have Carnegie libraries, several others have an accumulation of books and hope to become beneficiaries of Mr Carnegie.

Oklahoma City library is the oldest, having been established in 1901, by the zeal and perseverance of one faithful club woman. This library is supported by a one mill tax levied upon the city, but its 10,000 volumes also furnish the reading matter for the surrounding rural section.

A state library association has been organized and the promptness with which the librarians responded to the call for the initial meeting is proof of a true and enthusiastic library spirit, and all library workers willing to profit by suggestions toward making the institutions they represent of more service to the people, resulted in ten libraries sending nineteen to adopt the constitution.

In the absence of Miss MARY HANNAH JOHNSON, the following paper was read by Mr G. H. Baskette, President of the Board of trustees of the Carnegie library of Nashville:

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT IN TENNESSEE

An investigation of library conditions in Tennessee discloses so much that would be

of interest to the student of library development, my fear is that I cannot compass the situation with sufficient clearness and succinctness within the limit of time allotted this paper. I will give as briefly as possible the general and statistical information in regard to Tennessee libraries, which is authentic as far as could be obtained, setting forth the present advancement and prospects and not disguising the weak phases and discouragements.

While there are not many public libraries yet established in Tennessee the formative work that has been done has been based upon a policy which must prove a sure foundation for future upbuilding. This policy has been to emphasize the library as an essentially educational, as distinguished from a recreational institution; that it is a necessity and not a luxury; that it must go hand in hand with schools and colleges in such intimate and vital association that neither can do without the other, and that communities will eventually demand the library as necessary to their educational equipment.

Library legislation. Those interested in library work in Tennessee endeavored to get several important bills passed by the General Assembly at its session in 1907. Though some of these bills did not pass, the effort to secure such legislation increased the general interest in it and reasonably insures the enactment of the needed library laws by the next legislature. The state has a general library law which applies to cities of certain population, but it needs further amendment so as to apply to all incorporated towns. The existing law and amendments are appended. Some special acts for levying library taxes applying to particular towns, have been passed. A bill to create a free library commission was introduced, which first failed because an appropriation was called for, and afterwards, through the narrowness of some legislators who thought it would benefit a few and not the people. The State school department and the State library hoped to secure the passage of a traveling school library law, with an appropriation to send

carefully selected libraries to the county common schools throughout the state, these libraries to travel from county to county, the State library being the distributing center. Unfortunately this bill was not introduced, but another bill was introduced providing for an annual appropriation of \$5,000 to assist rural schools to establish and maintain libraries.

The State library. The Tennessee state library was founded in 1854, with 500 volumes. It now contains 60,000 volumes, which include a fine collection of law books with court reports and state documents. Within the past ten years this library has made remarkable advance in administration, the librarians having become more trained in librarianship as a profession and the library itself further removed from mere political influence, the election of the librarian being now in the hands of a commission composed of the Governor, Attorney-General and the Chief Justice of the Supreme court. The State library is making a better impression throughout the state than ever before. It is cooperating with the state school department to secure a general law to provide for traveling school libraries. The need of such a law is evident, as a number of the counties have already realized the value of placing good reading before their children supplemental to their text-books and have made appropriations from their County school funds for traveling school libraries. The State library is the depository for the Library of Congress cards.

Public libraries. The public library movement in Tennessee has made marked advancement within the past five years. While many new libraries have not been established, those that have been are organized upon the most improved methods and standards of library work. The librarians and boards recognized the necessity for a thoroughly trained service, and most of the librarians and assistants are professionally equipped for this special work. I know of no public libraries doing more helpful work than the free libraries in Tennessee. They are not only powers in

the communities in which they are situated, but are instrumental in stimulating a general interest in library advancement throughout the state. If you will pardon me I will mention the institution I know most about, the Carnegie library of Nashville, as an example of library progression in Tennessee. This library is not only well equipped for its regular work in all departments, but has been prominent in encouraging the cooperation of schools and libraries, the promotion of the arts and crafts and aiding with counsel and information movements for the establishment of new libraries in the state. There are five free circulating libraries in Tennessee supported by municipal tax or appropriation.

Chattanooga. First library organized in 1887, subscription. Chattanooga public library organized in 1904; Carnegie building cost \$50,000; yearly appropriation, \$5,000; assistants, 6; open on Sunday; volumes, 12,210.

Jackson. First library organized 1883, subscription: Jackson free library organized 1902; Carnegie building cost \$35,000; yearly appropriation, \$3,000; special tax of 10 cents on every \$100 worth of property; assistants, 1; open on Sunday; volumes, 6,881.

Memphis. First library organized 1847; subscription; Cossitt library established 1888; Cossitt building cost \$75,000; City built addition, \$25,000; yearly appropriation, about \$18,000; special tax of 3 cents on the \$100; assistants, 7; open on Sunday; volumes, 30,000; one branch library for negroes; two deposit stations.

Nashville. Howard library organized in 1885; a reference and then a subscription library; made a free circulating library in 1901; merged into the Carnegie library of Nashville in 1901; Carnegie building cost \$100,000; City appropriation yearly, \$10,000; assistants, 8; open on Sunday; volumes, 32,796; one deposit station; supplies 5,000 books yearly for circulation in public schools.

Paris. Paris free library organized in 1902; building furnished by the City; 1,000 volumes donated by E. W. Grove; yearly

appropriation, \$200; assistants, 1; volumes, 1,500.

The Memphis library circulates books throughout the county but does not receive any county appropriation. The other libraries hope to get county appropriations to enable them to extend the circulation of books through the counties. Most of the towns in the state have subscription libraries more or less advanced.

The city of Knoxville has a large and very successful subscription library, known as the Lawson-McGhee library. First library organized 1873, subscription; called the Public library. Lawson-McGhee library, endowed 1886; no city appropriation; maintenance fund, \$3,200; assistants, 2; open on Sundays; volumes, 13,264.

The subscription library is a forerunner of the free library and through its influence a number of towns are now inaugurating movements to secure free public libraries.

School, college and law libraries and special collections. Tennessee abounds in universities, colleges and schools and there are over 100 school libraries in the state, some of them comprising exceptionally large and fine collections. The college library has become the center of activity in the college world and from many colleges in Tennessee I hear of new library buildings being planned and increased funds being appropriated for books. The negro universities are also well equipped with libraries. Mention is made below of some of the principal university libraries:

Cumberland university, Lebanon; library founded in 1842; volumes, 20,000; assistant librarians, 3.

Grant university, Chattanooga; library founded in 1886; volumes, 5,500; assistants, 2.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville; library organized 1807; volumes, 22,000; assistants, 2.

University of the South, Sewanee; library organized 1874; volumes, 27,000; assistants, 1.

Peabody college for teachers, Nashville; library organized 1806; volumes, 25,000; assistants, 1.

Vanderbilt university, Nashville; library organized 1875; volumes, 33,700; assistants, 2.

Nashville has four extensive law libraries, and there are large law libraries in Memphis, Chattanooga and Knoxville and smaller collections in many of the lesser cities of the State. There are not a few special collections of great value in Tennessee, among which are the collection of the Tennessee historical society and the state archives collection at Nashville, and that of the Goodwin institute at Memphis which expends \$5,000 annually for a reference library. The State library and the public libraries are making special collections on certain lines.

State library association. The Tennessee library association was organized in 1902 and has held three annual meetings. The association has accomplished an excellent work, enlisting not only the cooperation of the librarians but also that of men and women distinguished in other vocations. The papers read are not confined to technical library methods and subjects, but many of them have been rich with advanced ideas of educational progress and civic improvement. The libraries have paid the expenses of librarians to attend the sessions and each section of the state has been well represented. One of the paramount aims of the association has been to get in closer touch with the school people of the State and joint-meetings of the Association and the Public school officers' association of Tennessee have been held annually at which meetings the library interests are placed before the school officers and school interests are discussed with the librarians. By this means the library spirit has been promoted with the promise of rich results in the future.

The Tennessee federation of women's clubs, which is backing the traveling library movement, having sent out several hundred libraries, cooperates with the Tennessee library association and is a strong factor for advancing library interests in the state. The Tennessee library association, realizing the necessity for better

means of disseminating the library spirit over the South and fostering the closer association of schools and libraries, co-operates with librarians and educators in the Southern states in forming a Department of libraries in the Southern educational association at the annual meeting of that association at Montgomery in December, 1906. This movement was enthusiastically endorsed by the assembled educators and by leading librarians in the South. The people must be given information about libraries and must be shown the need and benefit of the library before they can be induced to give it proper attention or call for its establishment. And I know of no better way to teach the people to call for the library than to couple it with the educational movement in the South. And it is hoped and believed by these enthusiastic educators that in a few years a library spirit will be engendered the like of which has never been here before. The library workers are few, but the prominent men and women belonging to the Southern educational association are many and they are going to take the library message to the people.

In closing Mr Baskette expressed his pleasure at being present at this, his first meeting with the Association. He spoke in high appreciation of the work Miss Johnson had done, and of the inspiration she had been. He spoke further of the need of arousing public sentiment in favor of libraries and expressed his belief that before many years Tennessee would be dotted with them.

Mr W. F. YUST, Librarian of the Free public library, Louisville, presented the following statement of

LIBRARIES AND THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN KENTUCKY

Library development can not precede school development. Unless both take place at the same time, the library movement must come second. Where the public schools are poor, public libraries cannot flourish, which has long been the case

in many parts of Kentucky. There are, however, many excellent private collections of books, some of which have exerted a wide influence. At present there is a marked tendency toward the democratizing of the library.

The best obtainable statistics for the state give 79 libraries of 1,000 to 10,000 volumes, six between 10 and 20 thousand, three between 20 and 30 thousand, one of 50,000, one of 90,000 and one of 100,000 volumes. There are 21 free public libraries, 12 subscription libraries, a state library, a law library, six college libraries of considerable size and value, several of which take the place of free circulating libraries in their vicinity, a few public school libraries that circulate books to the people and perhaps 50 small libraries of educational institutions with 1,000 to 5,000 volumes which are free for reference in the towns where they are located.

Ten, or almost half, of the free public libraries have Carnegie buildings. By far the largest part of the free public library work of the state is being done in Louisville where five Carnegie buildings are now being erected and where last year the appropriation of funds and the circulation of books were probably twice as large as in all the rest of the state.

The State federation of women's clubs has collected the following statistics for the 119 counties of the state; there are 16 counties with free libraries, 12 with subscription libraries and 71 without any libraries; 20 counties were not reported. The Traveling library committee of the Women's federation has for several years been circulating books and has also donated some to communities desiring to establish permanent libraries. At present the Federation has 84 book cases averaging 55 volumes each which are circulated in 24 mountain counties.

Berea college situated on the edge of the mountain district also has 60 traveling libraries of about 20 volumes each, or a total of 1312 volumes, in circulation among the mountain people. The books are sent almost entirely to the public

schools. Much good is thus being accomplished by this college and the women's clubs. These are the only two efforts thus far made through traveling libraries or otherwise toward work for any considerable portion of the state.

The federal census of 1900 gives Kentucky a population of 2,147,174, of which 284,706, or 13 per cent. are negroes. For the latter no provision is made in libraries except in a very few cases, mainly because there is little or no demand. In the Carnegie library at Lexington, in the heart of the commonwealth, a reading room is set apart for them and they may draw books for home use at the same desk with all others. This privilege is used by so few that their presence is hardly noticed. In Louisville which has a population of 250,000 the trustees planned from the beginning to place the Public library on the same basis as the public schools and provide a separate branch for the 40,000 negroes. This branch is now in operation in rented quarters but a \$30,000 Carnegie building is in process of construction and will be the first of its kind in existence. The library is in charge of two colored people and circulated in the last 12 months 23,969 volumes. The plan is a complete success. Although it is not fully approved by the extremists, it is acknowledged by all who understand the conditions to be the best solution of the problem. It commends itself to the judgment of all who are laboring most earnestly and wisely for the welfare of both races and it will probably be adopted wherever the question comes up for serious consideration.

In 1902 three free public library laws were enacted, one for cities of classes three to six, one for cities of classes two to three, and one for cities of the first class, of which Louisville is the only city. There is also a law relating to county and school district libraries. These laws could be improved by consolidation and otherwise. The chief library need of the state however is not legislation but education.

The first meeting of the librarians of the state and others interested will be held in Louisville, June 26 and 27. One of the

three sessions to be held will be devoted to the consideration of the library situation in the state, and it is hoped that one of the practical results of the meeting will be the organization of a permanent state library association. Responses to preliminary circulars indicate that most of the few public libraries in the state will be represented and that the undertaking will receive the sympathy and support of all who have the educational interests of the state at heart.

Kentucky is enjoying her full share of the wonderful commercial development that is taking place throughout the South. At the same time there are hopeful and unmistakable evidences of a great educational awakening such as is necessary before libraries will be either numerous or large. The few librarians and many teachers and club women are becoming aroused to the library needs of the state and will make their first concerted effort next month to inaugurate a forward movement.

Following the symposium on Southern libraries Mr CHARLES F. LUMMIS, librarian of the Los Angeles (Cal.) public library spoke to the Association for a few minutes in the interest of that city and library as prospective hosts for the Conference in 1908.

THIRD SESSION

(Ball Room, Battery Park Hotel, Asheville, May 27th.)

The third general session was called to order at 9.30 a. m. by the PRESIDENT, who said: The Chair has been asked to present to the Association a very cordial invitation from the authorities of the Asheville library association to visit that institution.

Dr B. C. STEINER: It has been evident to most of the members of this Association for quite a while that our old method of organization was unsatisfactory, with the growing membership and the complexity of the work. General headquarters have opened, and in the address of the President at the beginning of

this convention, we were again reminded of the fact that volunteer service could no longer be a satisfactory permanent management of the Association. In order that the matter may be brought to a definite discussion, I have drafted the following amendment to the Constitution of the American Library Association, which I desire to submit, with the object of substituting a single paid official for our present Secretary, Treasurer, and Recorder, and changing the Constitution of the Executive board, which change is thus made necessary. I would also say that my sole purpose is that the management of the Association may be made more efficient. I am not wedded to my own scheme, and that will be seen by the resolution which I shall read to you. I am perfectly willing to have the Constitution amended in any form that may be best in order to meet the ends desired:

Resolved. That the following amendments be made to the Constitution of the American Library Association:

1 In Section 7, strike out the words "Secretary, Recorder, and Treasurer," and insert in lieu thereof the words "a Secretary-Treasurer."

2 In Section 7, strike out the words "together with the President for the preceding term shall constitute an Executive board and they" and add to the section, at the end thereof, the following words: "There shall be an Executive board, composed of the President and six members of the Association, chosen at the annual meeting of the Council."

3 Strike out Sections 9, 10, and 11.

4 Insert a new Section 9, as follows: "There shall be a Secretary-Treasurer, appointed by the Executive board, who shall devote his whole time, or such part thereof as said Board may direct, to the interests of the Association, in cooperation with and under the authority of the Executive board and who shall receive at stated intervals a salary, the amount of which shall be fixed by the Council. He shall be the active executive officer of the Association, shall keep a record of the attendance and proceedings at each meeting of the Association, Council, and Executive board, shall record all receipts and disbursements, and pay bills on written order of two members of the finance committee, shall make an annual report to the Association, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned him by the Executive board or by the Council."

5 Renumber the other sections, as may be made necessary by the above amendments.

Resolved. That these proposed amendments be received, that they be referred, for consideration and report, to a special committee of five, consisting of the President and four others to be appointed by the President, and that the report of this committee be made a special order of business for Tuesday, May 28, at 10.30 a. m.

By unanimous consent this resolution was received and referred to the Council.

Mr J. C. DANA: I wish to offer another amendment, which can well take the same course as the one just passed with reference to possible change in method of amendment of the Constitution. Under the present Constitution, if an amendment is changed during the year's deliberation of it, by even so much as a comma, it is necessary to defer its adoption for still another year. I move that:

In Section 26, the words "in their final form" be stricken out.

The PRESIDENT: The motion has been duly seconded and unless objection is made, it will be received and referred to the Council.

We will now proceed with the paper which should have been read Saturday by Miss MARY E. WOOD, of the library of Boone college, Wuchang, China, on

LIBRARY WORK IN A CHINESE CITY

The city of Wuchang, where we are starting this library work, is 600 miles up the Yangtze River. It is just opposite the city of Hankow, the largest tea port in the world, and the principal trading and railroad center of Middle China. From its commercial importance it is often spoken of as the "Chicago of China."

Crossing over the Yangtze to Wuchang, one finds oneself in an entirely different atmosphere. The city is one of the greatest literary centers in the whole empire. It is frequently termed the "Boston of China," the "hub" of the Middle Kingdom. Wuchang is the home of one of the leading progressive statesmen of the day, Chang Chih-tung, who is called by Minister Rockhill the greatest Chinese scholar in the country. He is the author of the book "China's only hope." This hope he believes lies in adopting Western education, and so he has made this city the capital of his Vice-royalty, a seat of the "New learning," as it is often called. Under the old regime Wuchang was a center of learning, for here one of the great ex-